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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/535,096	03/24/2000	J Andrew Goossen	MFCP.68673	2356

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EXAMINER	
NGUYEN, CAO H	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2173	

DATE MAILED: 08/22/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/535,096	GOOSSEN ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Cao (Kevin) Nguyen	2173	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *24 March 2000*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final. 2nd

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-59* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-59* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *03/02*.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

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DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

1. Claims 1-59 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Gough et al. (US Patent No. 6,072,489).

Regarding claim 1, Gough discloses in computer system having a graphical user interface implementing a windowing environment, a method for displaying two or more overlapping windows on a computer display [..translucent windows images or a based opaque; see col. 2, lines 40-65], the method comprising displaying any non-overlapping portions of the windows on the display [..the overlaying window having been rendered translucent, the opaque window portion within the overlapping; see col. 4, lines 43-54]; blending any overlapping portions of the windows [topmost or active window is shown superimposing over a portion of a lower window; see col. 8, lines 13-57]; and displaying the blended overlapping portions of the windows on the display [overlapping opaque windows see col. 9, lines 12-65].

Regarding claim 2, Gough discloses, wherein the windows are hardware sprites and the blending step includes compositing the window according to an order (see col. 10, lines 14-60).

Regarding claim 3, Gough discloses, wherein the order is a display order (see figure 3a-3e).

Regarding claim 4, Gough discloses wherein the display order is a z order (see figures 3f-3h).

Regarding claim 5, Gough discloses includes specifying an opaqueness value for each window sprite (see col. 10, lines 1-13).

Regarding claim 6, Gough discloses wherein the opaqueness value is specified in the form of an integer having values between approximately 0 and 255 (see col. 11, lines 20-67).

Regarding claim 7, Gough discloses wherein a first of the windows has a first display order and a second of the windows has a second display order, and wherein the second display order is greater than the first display order (see col. 14, lines 21-61).

Regarding claim 8, Gough discloses wherein the blending step includes redirecting any overlapping portions of the first window to at least one underlay buffer; and compositing the one or more underlay buffers with the second window (see col. 15, lines 50-65).

As claims 9-11 are analyzed as previously discussed with respect to claims 4-8 above.

Regarding claim 12, Gough discloses wherein at least one of the windows is substantially rectangular in shape (see figures 3a-3i).

Regarding claim 13, Gough discloses wherein at least one of the windows is substantially non-rectangular in shape (see figures 5a-5b).

Regarding claims 14 and 15, Gough discloses having computer-executable instructions for performing the steps and the computer system having a memory, an operating system and a central processor, the computer system being operable to execute the steps recited (see figures 1-5a).

Regarding claim 16, Gough discloses a method in a computer system for displaying two or more overlapping bitmaps on a computer display, the method comprising redirecting any overlapping portions of a first of the two or more bitmaps to one or more underlay buffers (see figures 3a-3f); and compositing a second of the two or more bitmaps with the overlapping portions of the first object bitmap (see col. 19, lines 3-30); and displaying the composited second bitmap and any non-overlapping portions of the first bitmap (see col. 19, lines 38-65).

Regarding claim 17, Gough discloses, wherein the first and second bitmaps include a display order and the second bitmap includes an opacity level (see col. 17, lines 11-65).

Regarding claim 18, Gough discloses, wherein the second bitmap has a higher display order than the first bitmap (see col. 18, lines 7-41).

Regarding claims 19-27, Gough discloses, wherein the display order is a z order; receiving a function call creating the second bitmap; and receiving a function call setting the opacity level of the second bitmap (see figures 2-5b).

Regarding claims 28, Gough discloses a layering engine in a computer system for displaying a layered object and one or more underlying objects on a computer display, the layering engine comprising: one or more underlay buffers containing data indicative overlapping portions of the one or more underlying objects (see col. 18, lines 19-67); and a composition buffer for receiving the underlay buffer data and compositing the data according to a display order (see figures 14-17).

As claims 29-32 are analyzed as previously discussed with respect to claims 19-28 above.

Regarding claims 33, Gough discloses a computer system having one or more applications generating objects to be displayed, the computer display system comprising: a processor for executing the applications; and a display device coupled with the processor for displaying the application objects (see col. 6, lines 7-67); wherein the display device displays the objects such that a first portion of any overlapping objects is blended and displayed as one or more sprites and a second portion of any overlapping objects is redirected to an underlay buffer and blended and displayed; and wherein the display device displays the objects such that any non-overlapping portions of the objects are displayed in a non-blended manner (see col. 7, lines 10-59).

Regarding claims 34, Celi discloses a computer computer-readable medium having stored thereon a data structure, the data structure comprising at least one field containing data indicative of a parameter designating an object as a layered object (see figures 3a-3i).

As claims 35-59 are analyzed as previously discussed with respect to claims 1-19 and 33-34 above.

Conclusion

2. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. (see PTO-892).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cao (Kevin) Nguyen whose telephone number is (571)272-4053. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30AM-5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Cabeca can be reached on (571)272-4048. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Cao (Kevin) Nguyen
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2173

08/17/05